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REMARKS

Claims 1-42 and 49-55 were canceled previously;
Claims 43-48 and 56-59 were pending;
Claims 43-46 were allowed;
Claims 43, 47, 48, and 56 are amended herein; and
New claims 60-65 are added herein.

This is in response to the Final Office Action of April 28, 2003, with the two-month response period set to expire Monday, June 30, 2003.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

Applicants further seek the Examiner's permission to enter the amendments submitted herein. The amendments are made in compliance with the requirements set forth in the Final Office Action and/or expressed by the Examiner during the telephone interview on June 17, 2003. Consequently, the amendments are believed to place the present application in condition for allowance and, thus, should be entered.

Telephone Interview

At the beginning, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the telephone interview on June 17, 2003.

During the telephone interview, the Examiner indicated that claims 47 and 48 would be allowable if they are rewritten to depend from claim 46, thereby reciting that the biological agent of claim 46 may comprise a prodrug (Claim 47) or a therapeutic agent (claim 48). The Examiner also agreed that claim 56-59 would be allowable if the recitation "capable of specific binding with high affinity VEGF receptor" is deleted from independent claim 56..

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Agreement was reached regarding the presentation of new claims 60-65. Specifically, the Examiner agreed that, in light of allowed generic claim 43, Applicants were entitled to add new dependent claims 60-65 to separately claim each SEQ ID listed in the Markush group of independent claim 43.

Sequence Compliance

As requested by the Examiner, sequence identifiers are amended from "SEQ. ID. NO." to "SEQ ID NO:". For clear illustration, the entire phrases "SEQ. ID. NO." are deleted and, in replacement, phrases "SEQ ID NO:" are added.

Specification

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner objected to Applicants' submission of the substitute specification in Paper No. 15 on the ground that no clean version was submitted.

A new Substitute Specification is submitted herewith, in both a markup version and a clean version. Sequence identifiers are in proper form and typographical errors noted by the Examiner on pages 26, 28, and 69 have been corrected. No new matter has been introduced.

Rejections under 35 USC 112

As requested by the Examiner in the telephone interview, claims 47 and 48 are now amended to depend from claim 46 and more distinctly point out that a biological agent conjugated with a compound of the invention may be a prodrug or a therapeutic agent. These amendments do not add any new matter to the current application and are fully supported by the specification. See page 27, ln. 17 to page 30, ln. 13 of the clean version of the Substitute Specification.

Claim 56 has been amended herein to delete the recitation of "specific" binding, in accordance with the telephone interview with the Examiner. Claim 56 has also been

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amended to replace the recitation "compound" with "peptide," thus finding antecedent basis for this claim element. No new matter has been entered.

New Claims

New claims 60-65 are herein added as dependent claims from the allowed claim 43. Claims 60-65 are added merely to recite, in separate claims, each SEQ ID listed in the Markush group of claim 43. No additional search is necessitated by the addition. Therefore, entry of new claims 60-65 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Having fully addressed all the objections and rejections contained in the Final Office Action, Applicants submit that the instant application as amended herein stands in condition for allowance. A notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

CORRESPONDENCE AND FEES

Authorization is given herein to charge extra claim fees to Deposit Account No. 03-3839. Should there be any additional fees necessitated by this amendment and response, authorization is hereby given to charge the same Deposit Account.

Please address all correspondence to Intellectual Property Docket Administrator, Gibbons, Del Deo, Dolan, Griffinger & Vecchione, One Riverfront Plaza, Newark, NJ 07102-5497. Telephone calls should be directed to Michael Dai at (973) 596-4489 and fax communications should be sent directly to (973)-639-8311.

Should there be any questions or other matters that may be resolved by telephone call, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicants' attorney at the number above.

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Respectfully submitted,

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